

SIDNEY STRICKLAND AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC

3050 K ST. N.W., SUITE 101
WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5108
TELEPHONE: 202-338-1325
FAX: 202-295-3854

SIDNEY L. STRICKLAND, JR.
SIDNEY.STRICKLAND@STRICKLANDPLLC.COM

July 25, 2007

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

219854



***Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub. No. 431X); BNSF Railway Company—
Abandonment Exemption—in Knox and Fulton Counties, IL***

Dear Secretary Williams:

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Services to: (1) abandon a 1-mile line of railroad between milepost 51.58 and milepost 52.58 near Farmington, in Fulton County, IL; and (2) discontinue service over a 4.69-mile line of railroad between milepost 46.89 near Yates City, and milepost 51.58 near Farmington, in Knox County, IL, a total distance of 5.69 miles. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on August 4, 2006 (71 FR 44350-51). The exemption became effective on September 5, 2006. The present consummation deadline is August 4, 2007.

Because BNSF has numerous abandonments currently in process, BNSF has encountered scheduling difficulties with its salvagers. This has led to a delay in the completion of necessary salvage activities. Accordingly, BNSF is requesting an extension of the consummation deadline until October 4, 2007.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 338-1325.

Sincerely,

Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.
SLS/ew

cc: Jake DeBoever
John Sims

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUL 26 2007

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Public Record